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E.O. 12958: DECL: 06/06/2015

TAGS: [EAID PHUM BM FR](#)

SUBJECT: FRANCE URGES INCREASED PRESSURE ON BURMA TO SPEED
AID TO CYCLONE NARGIS VICTIMS, WILL PRESS VISITING THAI FM
FOR ACTION THROUGH ASEAN

REF: A. A. RANGOON 434

[1B. B. RANGOON 436](#)

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[1D. D. STATE 59122](#)

Classified By: POL MC Josiah Rosenblatt for reasons 1.4 b and d

(C) We delivered ref D demarche to Ministry of Foreign Affairs Burma Desk Officer Jeremie Petit who noted the GOF shared our assessment of the inadequate compliance by the GOB to commitments made to UNSYG Ban Ki Moon to permit full access for international aid workers to assist Nargis victims. Petit described the French experience by noting access for aid workers was completely arbitrary. Some NGO,s are permitted to bring in additional staff, while others remain blocked. On the way forward, he expressed the French government's disappointment with some ASEAN members and UN organizations who continue to describe modest progress as success. Petit described OCHA's and UNICEF's &glass half-full assessments of Burmese cooperation as near-appeasement that undermines the international effort to put pressure on the Burmese government. The GOF will demarche visiting Thai Foreign Minister on June 6 to urge greater pressure on Burma through ASEAN.

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